

**OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS
RENDERED BY THE INTER-
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON
ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE**

Edited by

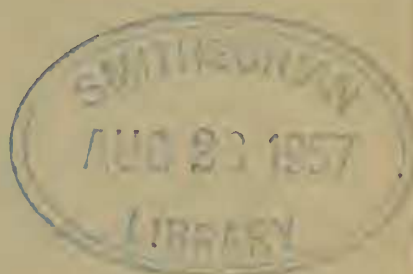
FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

Secretary to the Commission

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DIRECTION 70

Validation under the Plenary Powers of the family-group name *ARIETICERATINAE* Howarth, 1955 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea) (*Direction* supplementary to *Opinion* 337)



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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

COMPOSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RULING GIVEN IN DIRECTION 70

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(*Arranged in order of precedence by reference to date of election or of most recent re-election, as prescribed by the International Congress of Zoology*)

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(12th August 1953)

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(29th October 1954)

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(6th November 1954)

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Professor Enrico TORTONESE (*Museo di Storia Naturale "G. Doria", Genova, Italy*)
(16th December 1954)

DIRECTION 70

VALIDATION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS OF THE
FAMILY-GROUP NAME "ARIETICERATINAE"
HOWARTH, 1955 (CLASS CEPHALOPODA,
ORDER AMMONOIDEA) ("DIRECTION"
SUPPLEMENTARY TO
"OPINION" 337)

RULING :—(1) Under the Plenary Powers the family-group name SEGUENZICERATIDAE Spath (L.F.), 1924 (type genus : *Seguenziceras* Levi, 1896) (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea) is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy.

(2) The under-mentioned family-group name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* with the Name Number 184 :—

ARIETICERATINAE Howarth, 1955, as validated under the Plenary Powers in (1) above (type genus : *Arieticeras* Seguenza, 1885) (for use by specialists who consider on taxonomic grounds that the genus *Arieticeras* Seguenza, 1885, is not referable to the nominate subfamily of the family HILDOCERATIDAE Hyatt, 1867) (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea)

(3) The under-mentioned family-group name is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid*

AUG 15 1957

Family-Group Names in Zoology with the Name No. 215 :—

SEGUENZICERATIDAE Spath (L.F.), 1924, as suppressed under the Plenary Powers in (1) above (type genus : *Seguenziceras* Levi, 1896).

I. THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

The present *Direction* completes at the family-group-name level the action taken by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 337, in which it rejected as possessing no status in zoological nomenclature the reputed generic name *Arieticeras* Quenstedt, 1883, and in consequence accepted as an available name the generic name *Arieticeras* Seguenza, 1885, which it then placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*. The application upon which the present *Direction* is based was submitted to the International Commission on 30th March 1955 by Dr. W. J. Arkell (*Sedgwick Museum, Cambridge University*), the specialist by whom the original application had been submitted. This application was as follows :—

Proposed suppression under the Plenary Powers of the family-group name “Seguenziceratidae” Spath (L.F.), 1924 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea)

By W. J. ARKELL, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.

(*Sedgwick Museum, Cambridge University, Cambridge*)

The object of the present application is to ask the International Commission to use its Plenary Powers to suppress the family-group

name SEGUENZICERATIDAE Spath (L.F.), 1924 (*Pal. ind.* (n.s.) 9 Mem. 1) : 13 (type genus : *Seguenciceras* Levi, 1896). The grounds for this application are set out below.

2. In an application submitted in October 1950 I asked the Commission to give a Ruling on the question whether the reputed name *Arietoceras* Quenstedt, 1883, possessed the status of availability and therefore whether it invalidated the later name *Arietoceras* Seguenza, 1885. The question of principle involved was considered by the International Congress of Zoology at Copenhagen in 1953, and in the light of the decision then taken, the Commission has since ruled that *Arietoceras* Quenstedt, 1883, possesses no status of availability and consequently, that the name *Arietoceras* Seguenza is not to be rejected as a junior homonym. In announcing this decision in *Opinion 337* (*Ops. Decls. int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.* 10 : 109—124) published on 17th March 1955, the Commission placed the name *Arietoceras* Seguenza on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*, at the same time placing the invalid substitute name *Seguenciceras* Levi, 1896, on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology*.

3. In September 1954, Mr. Hemming, as Secretary to the Commission, informed me that it was desired to obtain decisions from the International Commission in regard to the family-group-name aspects involved in the applications concerning ammonite nomenclature which had been published in May 1951 in Triple-Part 6/8 of volume 2 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*. In all except the present case the application of the rules adopted by the Copenhagen Congress made it possible to formulate recommendations which were in harmony with current nomenclatorial practice.

4. In the present case the difficulty arises from the unfortunate decision by the Copenhagen Congress that a family-group name is not to be rejected when the name of its type genus is rejected as being (as in the present case) a junior objective synonym of some other generic name (1953, *Copenhagen Decisions zool. Nomencl.* : 36, Decision 54(1)(a)). I have already protested strongly against this decision (1954, *Geol. Mag.* 91 : 174, 410 ; 1955, *J. Paleont.* 29 : 188) which in my group and, as I now learn, in many other groups must, if applied, lead to the overturning of many well-known family-group names in favour of other names which have passed out of use completely. It is my strong hope that the next (Fifteenth) International Congress of

Zoology, when it meets in London in 1958, will reverse the foregoing decision in favour of the long-established practice under which a change is made in a family-group name when it is found necessary to change the name of its type genus because that name is either a junior objective synonym or a junior subjective synonym of some earlier name. In the present case I consider that it would be ridiculous if there were to be an available name SEGUENZICERATIDAE in view of the fact that by the ruling given by the Commission *Seguenziceras* Levi, 1896, is a junior objective synonym of *Arieticeras* Seguenza, 1885.

5. I therefore ask the International Commission :—

- (1) to use its Plenary Powers to suppress the family-group name SEGUENZICERATIDAE Spath (L.F.), 1924 (type genus : *Seguenziceras* Levi, 1896, a junior objective synonym of *Arieticeras* Seguenza, 1885) ;
- (2) to place the foregoing family-group name, as suppressed under the Plenary Powers under (1) above, on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology*.

II. THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

2. Registration of the present application : Upon the receipt of Dr. Arkell's application the question of the suppression of the family-group name SEGUENZICERATIDAE Spath, 1924, was allotted the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 931.

3. Publication of the present application : The present application was sent to the printer on 7th April 1955 and was published on 30th December in the same year in Part 9 of Volume 11 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (Arkell, 1955, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **11** : 297—298).

4. Issue of Public Notices : Under the revised procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 51—56), Public Notice of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers in the present case was given on 30th December 1955 (a) in Part 9 of Volume 11 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (the Part in which Dr. Arkell's application was published) and (b) to the other prescribed serial publications. In addition such Notice was given to four general zoological serial publications and to three palaeontological serials in Europe and America.

5. Current treatment of the nominal genus "Arieticerias" Seguenza, 1885, at the family-group level : The application submitted in the present case was prompted by the strong objection felt by Dr. Arkell to the use for a genus (in this case, the genus *Arieticerias* Seguenza, 1885) of a family-group name (in this case the family-group name SEGUENZICERATIDAE Spath, 1924) based upon an invalid name (in this case, the name *Seguenzicerias* Levi, 1896) for the genus in question. At the time when this application was submitted, no family-group name based upon the generic name *Arieticerias* Seguenza had as yet been published. It was not stated however in the application to what nominal family-group taxon the genus *Arieticerias* Seguenza was currently referred and for the sake of completeness Mr. Hemming, as Secretary, wrote to Dr. Arkell on 10th February 1956 asking for information on this matter. In his reply, dated 12th February 1956, Dr. Arkell reported that, since the submission of his application to the Commission, the genus *Arieticerias* Seguenza had been made the type genus of the nominal subfamily ARIETICERATINAE by his colleague M. K. Howarth. Dr. Arkell's letter was as follows :—

SEGUENZICERATIDAE is nowadays regarded as a subfamily of HILDOCERATIDAE Hyatt, 1867.

I was about to report to you that the corrected form ARIETICERATINAE has now already been published by the latest reviser of the group concerned. The reference is M. K. Howarth, 1955, "Domerian

of the Yorkshire coast", *Proc. Yorks. geol. Soc.*, 166, I have adopted the corrected form, with attribution to Howarth, 1955, in the international *Treatise of Invertebrate Paleontology*, which went to press at the beginning of this year.

It is beyond me how anyone can entertain any doubts about the necessity for this correction to the family name. A family name must surely be based on the name of the type genus. Since publication of *Opinion 337* the name of the type genus is *Arieticerias* and the old name *Sequenzicerias* no longer has any substance or existence. So how can a family name be based on a ghost-name?

6. Support received from M. K. Howarth (Sedgwick Museum, Cambridge) : On 23rd April 1956, Dr. M. K. Howarth (*Sedgwick Museum, Cambridge*) addressed the following letter to the Office of the Commission in support of the present application (Howarth, 1956, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **12** : 26) :—

I am writing to support Dr. Arkell's request that the family-group name SEQUENZICERATIDAE should be suppressed under the Plenary Powers. I have previously proposed and defined (1955, *Proc. Yorks. geol. Soc.* **30** : 166) the name ARIETICERATINAE (type genus : *Arieticerias* Seguenza, 1885) for a subfamily of the family HILDOCERATIDAE Hyatt, 1867.

7. No objection received : No objection to the proposals submitted in the present case was received from any source.

8. Submission of a Supplementary Proposal in relation to the family-group name "Arieticeratinae" Howarth, 1955 : When in July 1956 Mr. Hemming, as Secretary, came to consider the questions involved in the preparation of a Voting Paper in the present case, he prepared the following note to be added to the Voting Paper as Note 4 containing a proposal that, in view of the establishment of a nominal subfamily having the genus *Arieticerias* Seguenza 1885, as type genus, the subfamily name so published should be placed on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* :—

4. A Supplementary Point : At the time of the submission of the present application the genus concerned had been made the type genus of a family-group taxon based on its invalid name *Segueniceras* Levi, 1896, but no name based upon its valid name (*Arieticerias*) had then been published. Since then the name **ARIETICERATINAE** Howarth, 1955 (family **HILDOCERATIDAE**) has been published and it is proposed that this name should now be placed on the *Official List*.

III. THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

9. Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(56)34 : On 27th July 1956 a Voting Paper (V.P.(56)34) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, “ the proposal relating to the family-group name **SEGUENZICERATIDAE** Spath (L.F.), 1924, as set out in Points (1) and (2) in paragraph 5 on page 298 of Volume 11 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* “ [i.e. in the paragraph numbered as above in the paper reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Direction*] “subject to the proposal specified in Note 4 ” [i.e. the proposal reproduced in the immediately preceding paragraph of the present *Direction*].

10. Note by L. B. Holthuis in relation to the proposal submitted in respect of the family-group name “ Arieticeratinae ” Howarth, 1955 : When returning his completed copy of Voting Paper V.P. (56)34, Dr. L. B. Holthuis added the following note dated 30th July 1956 :—

I should like to see added to the entry “ **ARIETICERATINAE** Howarth, 1955 ” on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* “ for use by specialists who consider this family-group taxon to be distinct from the family-group taxon **HILDOCERATINAE** Hyatt, 1867 ”

11. The Prescribed Voting Period : As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the Three-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 27th October 1956.

12. Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(56)34 :
At the close of the Prescribed Voting Period, the state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(56)34 was as follows :—

(a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following twenty-three (23) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received) :*

Holthuis ; Bodenheimer ; Riley ; Sylvester-Bradley ; Hering ; Vokes ; Mertens ; Bradley (J.C.) ; Esaki ; Hankó ; Lemche ; Hemming ; Dymond ; Miller ; do Amaral ; Bonnet ; Prantl ; Tortonese ; Jaczewski ; Boschma ; Stoll ; Kühnelt ; Cabrera ;

(b) *Negative Votes, two (2) :*

Key ; Mayr ;

(c) *Voting Papers not returned :*

None.

13. Declaration of Result of Vote : On 28th October 1956, Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P. (56)34, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 12 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

14. Addition of an endorsement to the entry relating to the family-group name "Arieticeratinae" Howarth, 1955, placed on the "Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology" by the vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(56)34 : Simultaneously with the signature on 20th October 1956 of the Certificate declaring the result of the vote taken by the International Commission on

Voting Paper V.P.(56)34 (paragraph 13 above) Mr. Hemming, as Secretary, executed a Minute directing that in accordance with the suggestion made by Dr. Holthuis when returning his Voting Paper in the present case (paragraph 10 above), there should be added to the entry to be made on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* in relation to the family-group name ARIETICERATINAE Howarth, 1955 an endorsement that that name was placed on the *Official List* for use by specialists who considered on taxonomic grounds that the genus *Arieticeras* Seguenza, 1885, should not be placed in the nominate subfamily of the family HILDOCERATIDAE Hyatt, 1867¹.

15. Preparation of the Ruling given in the present " Direction " :

On 2nd April 1957, Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Direction* and at the same time signed a Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposal approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(56)34, subject to the clarification in regard to one matter specified in the Minute executed by the Secretary on 28th October 1956 referred to in paragraph 14 above.

16. Original References : The following are the original references for the names placed on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* and the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology* respectively by the Ruling given in the present *Direction* :—

ARIETICERATINAE Howarth (M.K.), 1955, *Proc. Yorks. geol. Soc.* 30 : 166

SEGUENZICERATIDAE Spath (L.F.), 1924, *Pal. ind. (n.s.)* 9 (Mem. 1) : 13

17. The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Direction* is accordingly

¹ The family-group name HILDOCERATIDAE Hyatt, 1867, has already been placed on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* by the Ruling given in *Direction* 14 (1955, *Ops. Decls. int. Conun. zool. Nomencl.* 10 : 463—480).

hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

18. The present *Direction* shall be known as *Direction* Seventy (70) of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Second day of April, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Seven.

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature*

FRANCIS HEMMING